GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6692
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2002
TRADE TALKS WITH THAILAND
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;JASKAUR MEENA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to expand trade relation with Thailand;

(b) if so, the areas in which Indo-Thai trade relation established during the last three years;

(c) the new areas identified for the expansion of trade between both the countries;

(d) whether any agreement has been signed between both the countries in this regard;

(e) if so, the terms and conditions of said agreement; and

(f) the main items proposed to be traded between both the countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI)

(a) to (f) : During the visit of Prime Minister of Thailand to India in Nov 2001, the two sides agreed to undertake a Joint Study on the possibility of having a Free Trade Area Agreement between the two countries. The study is underway and the first meeting of the Joint Working Group, set up by the two sides, was held in New Delhi on 12-13 April 2002. No formal agreement has been signed yet in this regard.

Gems and jewellery, inorganic/organic/agro chemicals, oil meals, drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals, marine products, primary & semi-finished iron & steel are among the main items of export from India and electronic goods, machinery except electricals and electronics, artificial resins, plastic material, etc., pearls, precious & semi-precious stones, etc. are main items of import from Thailand.

The other areas of interest for export by India, identified during the last India-Thai Joint Trade Committee (JTC) meeting held in New Delhi on 10-11 Sept. 2001, include machinery and parts, textile machinery and parts, electrical equipment and parts, cotton, cotton-yarn and fabrics, auto parts, railway rolling stocks, dye and dye stuff, consultancy services, including process engineering and design, transmission line tower, caster oil, telecom equipment including fibre optic cable, granite, ores and minerals, etc. Items of interest identified for export by Thailand include automatic data processing machines and parts, motor cars, motor vehicles, parts and accessories, polymers of ethylene, propylene, etc. in primary forms, chemical products, textiles, food processing, etc.